

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 10, 2009

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid
S-221, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable David Obey
H-218, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Daniel Inouye
S-131, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Boehner
H-204 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Lewis
1016 Longworth Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Thad Cochran
S-146A, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Leaders of the House and Senate:

As you prepare to go to conference on H.R. 1, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, we would like to reiterate our firm belief that school modernization is central to economic recovery and education reform.

Section 9301 of H.R. 1, titled "21st Century Green High-Performing Public School Facilities," will create hundreds of thousands of jobs and have a substantial and immediate stimulative effect on our economy. Moreover, it will make our school buildings more energy efficient, reduce emissions that contribute to global warming, strengthen our global competitiveness by increasing access to technology, and provide safe and healthy learning environments for our nation's most precious resource—our children.

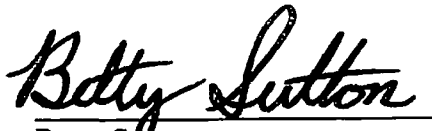
We are strongly committed to the school modernization provisions contained in the House-passed recovery package. As you know, the House has displayed its commitment to school modernization three times, beginning with House passage of H.R. 3021 in June of 2008, followed by passage of H.R. 7110 last September, and most recently in H.R. 1.

Your support will be instrumental in advancing this legislation, and we look forward to a final recovery package—including funds for school modernization—that will begin to turn our nation's economy around.

Sincerely,

Ben Chandler
Member of Congress

Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress



Betty Sutton
Member of Congress

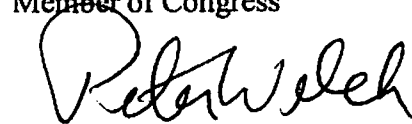
Rubén Hinojosa
Member of Congress

Joe Baca
Member of Congress



Madeleine Bordallo
Member of Congress

Mike Ross
Member of Congress

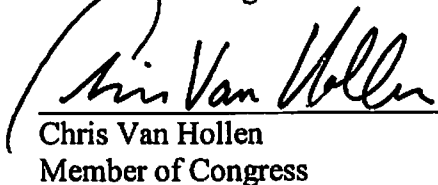


Peter Welch
Member of Congress

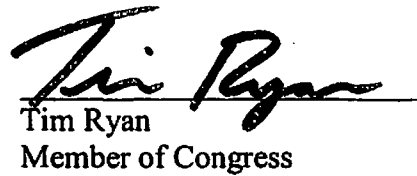
Maurice Hinchey
Member of Congress



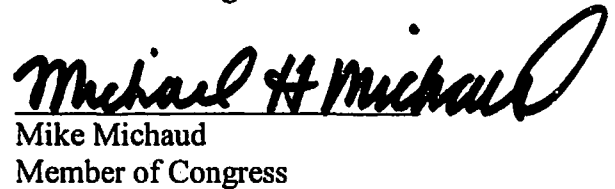
Mike Honda
Member of Congress



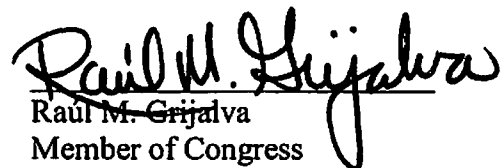
Chris Van Hollen
Member of Congress



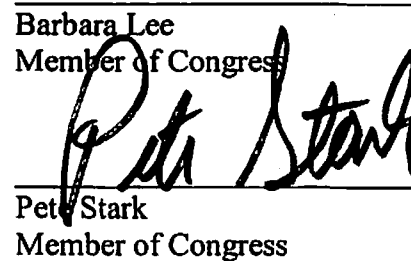
Tim Ryan
Member of Congress



Mike Michaud
Member of Congress



Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress



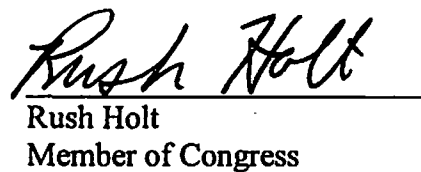
Barbara Lee
Member of Congress

Pete Stark
Member of Congress

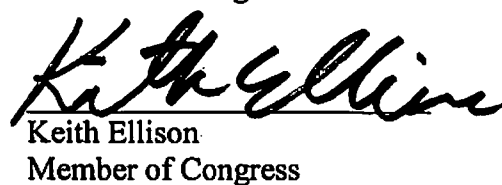
Bob Filner
Member of Congress



John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



Rush Holt
Member of Congress



Keith Ellison
Member of Congress